Industry Profiles 2017

Health Care and Social Assistance Industry

Alberta Government

OVERVIEW

The Health Care and Social Assistance industry[1] in Alberta includes establishments and services such as:

- hospitals, nursing and residential care facilities and out-patient care centres;
- offices of health practitioners (i.e. dentists, doctors, optometrists and chiropractors);
- medical and diagnostic laboratories;
- home health care services;
- ambulance services;
- social assistance services (i.e. for children, youth, the elderly, families);
- community food, housing, emergency and relief services;
- vocational rehabilitation services; and
- daycare services.

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[1] North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) 2007 major group 62

SECTION A
BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

1. 2016 Employment and Unemployment Numbers and Rates

Table 1

	Alberta	Health Care and Social Assistance Industry
Employment	2,263,800	269,400
Employment Share	N/A	11.9%
Unemployment	200,800	3,600
Unemployment rate	8.1%	1.3%

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, CANSIM Table 282-0008, 2016
Note: N/A denotes not-applicable. Employment share is obtained by dividing the number of employment in this industry by total employment in Alberta.

For more information on employment numbers or for a historical comparison, please go to the Labour Force Statistics[2] website or Statistics Canada[3].

2. Industry's Growth

- The Health Care and Social Assistance industry accounted for 11.9% of total employment in Alberta in 2016.
- Employment in is this industry expected to grow at an average rate of 2.3% from 2016 to 2019[4].
- The industry is expected to account for 11.2% of total employment in Alberta in 2017.

For more information, see the Alberta Learning Information Service (ALIS)[5] website for descriptions of industries.

[2] See http://work.alberta.ca/labour/labour-force-statistics-and-annual-reviews.html
[3] See http://www.statcan.gc.ca
[4] Alberta Modified Canadian Occupational Projection System (COPS) Outlook 2015 – 2019, Industry Employment Outlook
[5] See http://www.alis.alberta.ca

3. Facts, Trends and Outlook

According to the latest data from Statistics Canada's National Economic Accounts, the Health Care and Social Assistance industry accounted for approximately 4.9% of Alberta's Gross Domestic Product in 2015, up from 4.4% in 2005. Its contribution to Alberta's total employment increased from 9.5% in 2006 to 11.9% in 2016.

Total employment (the total number of employees and self-employed people, 15 years and over) in 2016 was 2.0% higher than its level in 2015. Over the last 10 years, employment increased by 89,900 from 2006, a 48.4% increase. There were 269,400 employed in the industry in 2016, of whom 75.6% were full time and 24.4% were part time.

Table 2

Characteristic	Alberta	Health Care and Social Assistance Industry
Median Retirement Age (years)	63.3	62.6
Average Number of Hours Worked per Week	36.2	33.6
Multiple Jobholders (% of total employment)	5.9%	9.4%
Average Job Tenure (months)	90.2	97.9
Employees Under Union Coverage (%)	20.8%	47.9%
Employees Working Overtime per Week (%)	17.1%	13.8%

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, CANSIM Tables 282-0022, 282-0031, 282-0042, 282-0078 and 282-0084, 2016, and custom tabulation (median retirement age)
Note: The percentage of multiple jobholders in Alberta is obtained by dividing the number of multiple jobholders in Alberta by total employment in Alberta. The percentage of multiple jobholders in the Information, Culture and Recreation industry is obtained by dividing the number of multiple jobholders in this industry by total employment in this industry. This calculation method also applies to the percentage of employees under union coverage and the percentage of employees working overtime per week.

4. Size of Businesses in Alberta and the Industry

Table 3

Establishment Size	Businesses in Alberta		Establishments in Health Care and Social Assistance	
	Number of Employees	%*	Number of Employees	%*
Less than 20 employees	673,000	35.6%	67,800	28.3%
20 to 99 employees	671,400	35.5%	77,500	32.4%
100 to 500 employees	346,900	18.3%	44,600	18.6%
More than 500 employees	199,800	11%	49,500	21.0%

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, CANSIM Table 282-0076, 2016

* Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Note: Statistics Canada's survey methodology for determining establishment size differs from the one it uses in the Labour Force Survey to determine total employment. As a result, the total number of employees by establishment size will not be the same as total employment in the industry, except by coincidence.

SECTION B
HUMAN RESOURCES PROFILE

1. Occupational Information

Some examples of occupations in the Health Care and Social Assistance industry include:

- chiropractor;
- dental hygienist;
- emergency medical technician;
- registered nurse; and
- child and youth care worker.

For a complete listing of all occupations related to this industry as well as detailed information on education and skill requirements, visit the Alberta Occupational Profiles[6] website.

2. Demographics: Gender and Age

According to the Labour Force Survey, the gender breakdown in the Health Care and Social Assistance industry in 2016 was as follows:

- women employed: 223,500 people, or 83.0%
- men employed: 49,500 people, or 17.0%

Overall in Alberta, women accounted for 45.5% and men made up 54.5% of total employment (for all industries).

Table 4

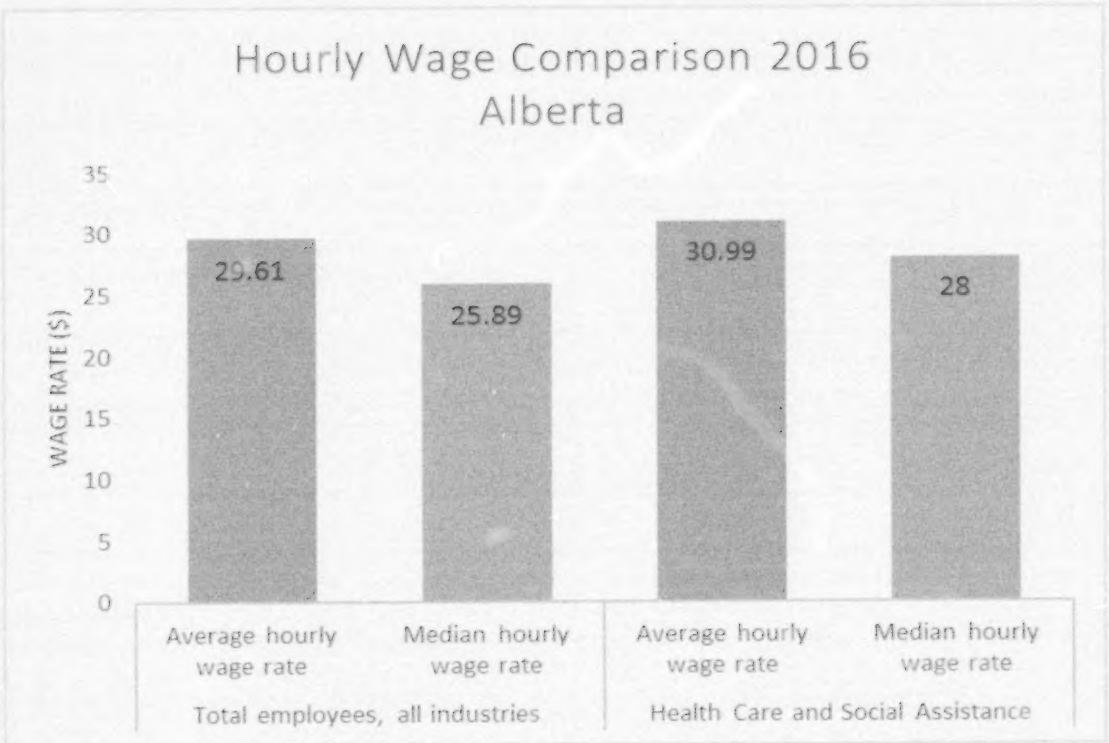
Age Characteristics	Employment in Alberta		Employment in Health Care and Social Assistance	
	Number	%	Number	%
15-24 years	303,200	13.4%	23,500	8.7%
25-54 years	1,536,000	67.9%	196,300	72.8%
55 years and over	424,600	18.8%	49,700	18.4%

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, CANSIM Table 282-0008, 2016

[6] **See** http://www.alis.alberta.ca/occinfo

3. Wages and Salaries

Chart 1



Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, CANSIM Table 282-0072, 2016
Note: The average hourly wage is obtained by dividing the sum of the wages of all the employees by the total number of employees. The median hourly wage is that wage below which half the employees earn and above which half the employees earn.

Wage and Salary Information for Selected Occupations

Table 5

Occupation	Average Hourly Wage			Average Annual Salary
	Starting	Overall	Top	
Cardiology technologist	$ 30.70	$ 36.67	$ 40.14	$ 62,997
Registered nurse	$ 34.99	$ 43.21	$ 47.57	$ 65,370
Social worker	$ 35.25	$ 42.83	$ 45.96	$ 73,182

Data Source: 2015 Alberta Wage and Salary Survey

For more information on the *2015 Alberta Wage and Salary Survey*, refer to the WAGEinfo[7] webpage. For descriptions, duties, required skills and education for specific occupations in the Health Care and Social Assistance industry, visit the ALIS[8] website.

[7] **See** http://www.alis.alberta.ca/wageinfo
[8] **See** http://www.alis.alberta.ca

SECTION C
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Links to Government and Industry Associations

- Alberta Health
  (http://www.health.alberta.ca)
- Alberta Health Services
  (http://www.albertahealthservices.ca)
- Alberta Association of Optometrists
  (http://www.optometrists.ab.ca)
- Alberta Association of Registered Nurses
  (http://www.nurses.ab.ca)
- Alberta Continuing Care Association
  (http://www.ab-cca.ca)
- Alberta Medical Association
  (http://www.albertadoctors.org)
- Alberta Union of Provincial Employees
  (http://www.aupe.org/my-union/health-care)
- Canadian Union of Public Employees
  (http://www.cupe.ca)
- Health Sciences Association of Alberta
  (http://www.hsaa.ca)
- United Nurses of Alberta
  (http://www.una.ab.ca)

Call us or visit our website for more information or to find the following publications:

- 2016 Annual Alberta Labour Market Review
- Monthly Alberta Labour Force Statistics Highlights and Packages
- Alberta's Occupational Demand and Supply Outlook
- Alberta Labour Force Profiles
- Alberta Industry Profiles

www.work.alberta.ca/labour.html (see Labour Market Information)
In Edmonton: 780.422.4266
Long distance: 1.800.661.3753

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